1853MNRAS..14....1M

Approximate Positions of the Stars compared with the Comet.

Reference Number.	R.A.	N.P.D.	Mag.	
	h m s	° ′ ″		
1	5 0 2	103 19 23	7	Preceded by a small star
2	5 57 29	104 4 54	7	H. C. No. 11551
3	5 57 51	104 1 37	8½	
4	5 58 10	104 6 51	8½	
5	6 11 52	104 18 18	10	
6	6 12 44	104 16 42	9	
7	6 14 32	104 14 30	8	
8	6 32 32	104 1 0	5	H. C. No. 12825
9	6 40 7	104 16 15	6	B. A. C. 2221
10	6 42 8	104 13 38	9?	
11	6 47 36	104 3 47	9½	
12	6 48 2	103 58 21	8	H. C. No. 13392
13	6 49 21	103 51 30	5½	B.A.C. No. 2273 : μ Canis Majoris
14	6 56 20	103 57 20	9	
15	6 58 15	103 45 0	8½	
16	7 0 37	103 49 30	8	H. C. No. 13848
17	7 1 49	103 45 28	9	
18	7 8 37	103 32 48	8	
19	7 9 59	103 25 24	7?	
20	7 11 10	103 37 49	7½	H. C. No. 14228
21	7 11 14	103 30 18	8	
22	7 14 22	103 21 24	10	
23	7 14 46	103 11 35	10	
24	7 16 34	103 4 9	10	
25	7 19 45	102 53 48	7½	
26	7 21 35	102 39 30	9	Preceded by a faint star, nearly on the same parallel.
27	7 22 28	102 50 20	10	
28	7 23 50	102 28 50	10½	

Extract of a Letter from A. G. Constable, Esq. to the Astronomer Royal, dated Lima, June 1853.

"I extract from my journal, premising that the bearings, &c., I received from the captain of the ship (in which I was only a passenger from Melbourne to Callao), are correct.

"May 1, 1853. This evening, at 7 minutes to 7 p.m., observed a comet at an altitude of 20° 47′ 30″, bearing W. by S. ½ S., dis-

1853MNRAS..14....9S

tant from the lowest star in *Orion's* belt (*Bellatrix*), 16° 29′ 30″, and bearing from that star about S.S.W.

"At noon of that day our latitude was 34° 39′ 8″, and longitude 167° 54′ 4″, and since then we have been steering towards the N.W. end of New Zealand with a six-knot breeze.

"The comet appeared to be a star of the first magnitude, rather dim, and of a reddish hue, with a bright tail of 4° in length.

"P.S. Although anxiously watched for, the comet did not again appear to us."

The following communication (referred to in the Supplement to the June *Notice*) has been received from Capt. Shadwell, containing an account of physical observations of Comet II., 1853, made at the Mauritius by M. Bosquet, the Government Meteorological Observer at Port Louis.

"The Observatory of which M. Bosquet has charge is one of a purely meteorological character, and is unfurnished with any astronomical instruments, so that on the appearance of the comet that gentleman was only able to record the general physical appearance exhibited by that body.

"April 28. Soon after sunset there was a remarkable appearance of the zodiacal light, rising in a conical form to an altitude of about 50°, and extending into the constellation of *Orion.* This phenomenon lasted $6^h\ 45^m$ p.m.

"On the 29th and 30th, the evenings were more or less obscured by clouds.

"On May 1st, M. Bosquet distinctly observed the comet, and thus describes its appearance. The nucleus appeared with the brilliancy of a fourth-sized star, and the tail, nearly 10° long, was projected from the sun towards the constellation of *Orion.* The nucleus was surrounded by a vapoury appearance.

"On May 2d the tail of the comet seemed to have considerably diminished in length and brilliancy. The nucleus appeared smaller, and no bright point could be observed in the middle with the naked eye, as on the night preceding. The nucleus was nearly in a straight line between ε *Orionis* and α *Leporis.*

"May 3. During the evening the weather was very clear, and the whole body and tail of the comet could be seen of a faint and pale colour. With the naked eye the nucleus seemed of a very pale light, and no bright points could be discovered within it; but viewed through a telescope, with a power of 60, a node or body was distinctly visible in the nucleus. The tail projecting towards θ *Canis Majoris*, extended over it as well as over some other stars of the 4th and 5th magnitude, which could be distinctly seen through it.

"May 4th. The comet this evening had again diminished in size and brightness. To the naked eye it seemed as a faint light like a cluster of nebulæ, and had a very short tail. With a telescope the tail could be distinctly observed; its direction was slightly changed,

1853MNRAS..14...10K

being a little more inclined towards the southward, and diverging more from the equator.

"May 5th. Comet gradually vanishing; stormy to-night; a faint whitish light. No observations taken subsequently to the 5th. The comet remained faintly visible till the 8th.

"*Note.* The estimated measurements of the length of the tail, as recorded both by Mr. Wright and M. Bosquet, were eye estimations, and not in any case obtained instrumentally.

"CHARLES F. A. SHADWELL, Capt. R.N.

"P.S. Finding, on comparing notes with Mr. Maclear at the Cape of Good Hope, that the comet had not been observed at the Cape before the 1st of May, and, therefore, that the observation of April 30th on board the Lady Jocelyn would be valuable, I have recomputed the comet's place, correcting it for refraction, and find as follows:—

App. Gr. Mean Time, $4^h\ 17^m$, April 30th,
R.A. $3^h\ 57^m\ 36^s.3$ Decl. $11^\circ\ 26'.4$

using Dr. Inman's Refraction Tables, which are based on Dr. Young's formulæ."* C. S.

Extract of a Letter from Lieut. John Parish, commanding H.M.S. Sharpshooter at Rio de Janeiro, May 14, 1853.

"We had a very good sight of a comet whilst out on our last cruise, on the night of the 30th of April, bearing W. ½ S. from our anchorage in Anuaçoa Bay, about 20 miles north of Rio Janeiro. Altitude 9° 2′, distance from *Sirius*, 35° 32′, from *Bellatrix*, 23° 51′, length of tail from 8° to 10°. Visible also on the night of the 1st of May, in nearly the same position. On our return I found it had been seen at Rio de Janeiro on the night of the 30th April.

"Has it been seen in Europe? If not this account of it may be interesting to astronomers.

"Had the weather been fine, I could have given you more particulars. It was first seen about $7^h\ 20^m$ p.m., and set at about 8 p.m."

Extract of a Letter from Capt. King, of Paramatta, N.S.W.

"April 30. A comet suddenly made its appearance after sunset. Angles from it to *Sirius*, 44° 19′, *Rigel*, 22° 35′, *Bellatrix*, 30° 20′.

"May 1. Clouded.

"May 2. Passing between λ and ν *Leporis*, about 18° 35′ from *Sirius*, towards which it was travelling. R.A. about $5^h\ 14^m$, decl. 13° south. Comparing this position with its place on the 30th

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* Capt. Shadwell had not at this time learned that the comet had been previously discovered in Europe.